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I hereby certify that this correspondence, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.8, is being sent via Facsimile at 703-746-7239 and also deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

Date: April 5, 2002

By: Luigi J. Mascari

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

In re application of: Burke et al.

Docket No.: 32277.0200

Serial No.: 09/267,176

Group Art Unit: 2166

Filed: March 12, 1999

Examiner: Morgan, R.

Title: **METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR A
UTILITY PROCESSING SYSTEM**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.115**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231-0001

Commissioner:

Applicant hereby responds to the Final Office Action dated December 5, 2001 in the above-referenced patent application. A Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) was filed on March 5, 2002. **This response is being filed by facsimile with a confirmatory copy being sent via first class mail.**

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows, and consider the following

remarks:

04/17/2002 GGEBREGI 00000113 192814 09267176

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180.00 CH

2166

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)		Docket No. 32277.0200
Applicant(s): Burke, et al.		

Serial No. 09/267,176	Filing Date March 12, 1999	Examiner R. Morgan	Group Art Unit 2166
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Invention: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR A UTILITY PROCESSING SYSTEM

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TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

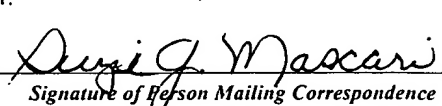
CLAIMS AS AMENDED					
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	41 -	31 =	10 x	\$18.00	\$180.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	3 -	3 =	0 x	\$84.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$180.00

- ☐ No additional fee is required for amendment.
- ☒ Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-2814 in the amount of \$180.00
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
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A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
 - ☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
 - ☐ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.


Signature

Dated: April 5, 2002

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